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February 10, 2003 LB 138

transplant, I was surprised to discover our statutes require the consent of next of kin for the donor's wishes to be carried out. I wis not surprised to discover, after inquiry, that such a consent requirement probably contributes to the limited availability of organs for transplant across this country. This statute...this situation is rapidly changing, however, and if Nebraska adopts this change it will become the 30th state...in other words, 30 other states have done what we're trying to do today...to modify the uniform act. I have...and with that, I would ask for your consideration. There are committee amendments pending, so that will be the next action, I presume.

SENATOR ENGEL: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Jensen, you're authorized to open.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, the amendment is simple. The committee amendment, AM0088, strikes the new language on page 2 and inserts language to limit the ability to make an anatomical gift to persons who are 18 years of age or older. With postmortem consent no longer necessary for the anatomical gifts to become effective, the ability to make such a gift is limited to the committee amendment for adults only. That is all the committee amendment does. I would ask for its adoption.

SENATOR ENGEL: Open for discussion. I see no lights. The question is the adoption of the committee amendment to LB 138. All those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR ENGEL: The committee amendments are adopted. The Chair recognizes Senator Schrock on the bill.

SENATOR SCHROCK: This...is this...this isn't closing, is it?

SENATOR ENGEL: No.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Okay. Basically, this bill says if you are a